

February 14, 2001

Congressman Todd Akin Announces Offices and Staff

District offices in both St. Charles and Creve Coeur join Akin's Washington D.C. office as being staffed and ready to serve.

"We have found the right individuals to help the people of the second district find meaningful access to their government," said Akin about his staff. "I believe that everyone should have a voice in how our government runs."

Congressman Akin has received the committee appointments he requested- Armed Services, Science and Technology, and Small Business. His colleagues elected Akin Vice-President of the Freshman Class of legislators for the 107th Congress.

The District Offices are located at:

820 South Main, Suite 206
St. Charles, MO 63301
(636) 949-6826

1023 Executive Parkway, Suite 18
Creve Ceour, MO 63141
(314) 878-0513 phone
(314) 878-0491 fax

The District Offices are staffed by:

Patrick Werner, District Director, is a lifelong resident of Missouri. He received his BA from Quincy University and his MA from Webster University. Patrick served previously as district Office Director for U.S. Senator Kit Bond and Political Director for the Talent for Governor campaign.

Tom Horgan, Director of Policy and Projects, is a lifelong resident of Missouri. Tom received his BA (Phi Theta Kappa) and MA (Public Administration) from St. Louis University. Tom served previously as Rep. Jim Talent's Project Director.

Kerry DeGregorio, Director of Casework, is a lifelong resident of Missouri. Kerry received her BA from Southeast Missouri State University. Kerry is a former Office Manager and Caseworker for Jim Talent.

James D. Mitas, Office Manager- Director of Science and Technology; Military and Veteran affairs. Mitas receive his BS from the University of Georgia and his MS from Central Michigan University. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel from the U.S. Army in 1996.

Debra Halsey L. Cochran, St. Charles District Office Director, received her BSN from Maryville University and her MA from Webster University. She is married to Jim Cochran. They have two children: Molly Halsey a junior at UMKC, and Joshua Halsey a Meramec Community College.

The Capitol office at 501 Cannon, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. is staffed as follows:

Mark Strand, Akin's Chief of Staff, was the Staff Director of the House Committee on Small Business from 1998-2001. He also simultaneously served as Rep. Jim Talent's Chief of Staff and was the assistant to the Deputy Majority Leader, which Talent was appointed to at the beginning of the 106th Congress. Mr. Strand has worked in Congress for more than 19 years. Besides being Talent's Chief of Staff for eight years, he has served as Chief of Staff to Reps. Bill Lowery of California and Stan Parris of Virginia. He has also been a Legislative Director, Press Secretary and served as Associate Staff on the Appropriations Committee and as Deputy Staff Director on the now defunct District of Columbia Committee. Strand obtained a BS in both Political Science and History from the Regents College of the University of New York. He completed the Stennis Congressional Fellowship in 2000.

Lindsey Neas, Legislative Director and Military Legislative Assistant, is a native Missourian. He received his BA from Grinnell College and Master of Public Policy from the University of Missouri- St. Louis. Lindsey served on active duty as an armor officer, and is currently a Captain in the Army Reserve.

John Sauer, Legislative Assistant, received his BSE from Duke University, a second BA in Theology from Oriel College, Oxford, and has a pending MA in Philosophy from the University of Notre Dame. He is a native Missourian and Rhodes Scholar.

Cara Townsend, Legislative Assistant, received her BA in Communication from William Jewell College in Liberty, MO. Cara previously interned for Senator Kit Bond, and served as Legislative Correspondent for Congressman Mark Foley. She is a native Missourian.

Stephanie Harris, Legislative Assistant, is a junior at American University in Washington, D.C.- Stephanie formerly interned for U.S. Senators Kit Bond, Bob Smith and John Ashcroft. She is a native Missourian.

Amanda Carman, Executive Assistant, is a native Missourian. Amanda has held administrative positions with the Institute in Basic Life Principles and with Lexington Christian Academy.

Patricia Weir, staff assistant, graduated from Saint Louis University and is a native Missourian.

Steve Taylor, Press Secretary for Congressman Akin, can be contacted at (314) 878-0513 by phone, or paged at (314) 419-6056. Before joining Akin's staff, Steve Taylor lobbied for Casino Watch at the State Capitol and has been media liaison for citizen and environmental advocacy organizations since 1988.